

Application No.: 10/501,582
Amendment dated: February 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of: OCTOBER 6, 2005
Atty. Ref.: 010100-120

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (currently amended) A fin assembly for a surf craft, the assembly including:
a base for mounting the assembly to the surf craft;
a primary larger fin extending from the base and having a leading primary edge and a trailing primary edge; and
a secondary smaller fin extending from the base and having a leading secondary edge and a trailing secondary edge. edge, the smaller fin trailing the larger fin.
2. (original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the base and the fins are integrally formed.
3. (original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the leading edges of the fins are aligned.
4. (original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the leading and the trailing edges are aligned.
5. (original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the base extends longitudinally between the leading primary edge and the trailing secondary edge.

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6. (original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the trailing primary edge and the leading secondary edge are joined by an intermediate arcuate edge defined by the base.
7. (original) An assembly according to claim 6 wherein the arcuate edge is of varying radius.
8. (previously presented) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the primary fin extends along a first plane that is normal to the base.
9. (original) An assembly according to claim 8 wherein both the primary and secondary fins extend along the first plane.
10. (original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein the fins include respective pairs of opposite faces that extend between the leading and trailing edges.
11. (original) An assembly according to claim 10 wherein one or more of the faces are substantially planar.
12. (currently amended) A fin assembly including:
 - a base for mounting the assembly to an object;
 - a primary_larger fin extending from the base and having a leading primary edge and a trailing primary edge; and
 - a secondary_smaller fin extending rearwardly from the base and having a leading secondary edge and a trailing secondary edge. edge, the smaller fin trailing the larger fin.
13. (original) An assembly according to claim 12 wherein the leading primary edge is curved substantially complementarily to the leading secondary edge.

14. (currently amended) A fin assembly including:
a base for mounting the assembly to an object;
a larger fin extending from the base and having a leading primary edge and a trailing primary edge and a high rake; and
a smaller fin extending rearwardly from the base and having a leading secondary edge and a trailing secondary edge. edge, the smaller fin trailing the larger fin.

15. (original) An assembly according to claim 14 wherein the edges extend along a single plane.

16. (original) An assembly according to claim 14 wherein the smaller fin is, in use, deformable in a direction normal to the plane.

17. (currently amended) A fin assembly for a surf craft, the assembly including:
a base for mounting the assembly to the surf craft;
a primary fin that extends from the base and which has a leading edge and a trailing edge that meet at a tip, where the edges lie substantially within a common plane; and
a lobe-a secondary fin extending rearwardly from the base a rear of the base, the lobe the secondary fin, having a lobe edge-an edge that has a tangent that is parallel to the plane.

18. (currently amended) A fin assembly for a surf craft, the assembly including:
a base having a substantially planar surface for mounting the assembly to the surf craft;
a fin that a primary fin that extends from the base and which has a leading edge and a trailing edge that meet at a tip; and
a lobe-a secondary fin extending rearwardly from the base a rear of the base, the lobe the secondary fin, having a lobe edge-an edge that has a tangent that is parallel to the surface.

19. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 18 wherein the base, the primary fin and the lobe the secondary fin are integrally formed.
20. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 18 wherein the base and the lobe secondary fin extend longitudinally.
21. (original) An assembly according to claim 20 wherein the base extends longitudinally between the leading edge and the trailing edge.
22. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 21 wherein the lobe the secondary fin is directly underlying the leading and the trailing edge.
23. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 22 wherein the lobe, wherein the secondary fin, the trailing edge and the leading edge extend in a common plane.
24. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 18 wherein the trailing edge is feathered in an area intermediate of the lobe of the secondary fin and the leading edge.
25. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 24 wherein the trailing edge and the lobe the secondary fin are joined by an intermediate arcuate edge defined by the base.
26. (original) An assembly according to claim 25 wherein the arcuate edge is of varying radius.
27. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 18 wherein the fin the primary fin extends along a first plane that is normal to the base.

28. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 18 wherein each the the primary fin includes a pair of opposite faces that extend between the leading and the trailing edges.
29. (original) An assembly according to claim 28 wherein one or both of the faces are substantially planar.
30. (original) An assembly according to claim 28 wherein one or both of the faces are substantially arcuate.
31. (canceled)
32. (original) An assembly according to claim 18 wherein the fin assembly includes one or more mounting formations that extend from the surface for engaging with complementary locating formations extending from the surf craft.
33. (original) An assembly according to claim 32 wherein the or each mounting formation is a protrusion, and the or each locating formation is a recess.
34. (original) An assembly according to claim 33 wherein the assembly includes two spaced apart mounting formations and the surf craft includes at least two locating formations.
35. (currently amended) A fin assembly including:
a base for mounting the assembly to an object;
a primary large fin extending from the base;
a secondary smaller fin extending from the base, the smaller fin trailing the large fin, wherein the base, the primary fin and the secondary fin include a combined total sectional area (A_f); and

a feathered portion between two or more of the primary fin, the secondary fin and the base, wherein the feathered portion includes a sectional area (A_p) where $A_p > 0.2A_f$.

36. (original) A surf craft including a fin assembly of any one of claim 1, claim 17 or claim 18.

37. (original) A surf craft including a fin assembly of any one of claim 12, claim 14 or claim 35, where the object is the surf craft.

38. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a fin assembly for a surf craft, the method including:

forming a base for mounting the assembly to the surf craft;

forming a primary_larger fin that extends from the base and which has a leading primary edge and a trailing primary edge; and

forming a secondary_smaller fin that extends from the base and which has a leading secondary edge and a trailing secondary edge, such that in use the smaller fin trails the larger fin.

39. (original) A method according to claim 38 wherein the forming steps are performed simultaneously.

40. (currently amended) A method according to claim 38 wherein the base, the primary_larger fin and the secondary_smaller fin are integrally formed.

41. (original) A method according to claim 38 including the additional step of forming at least one mounting formation that extends from the base for engaging with a complementary locating formation that extends from the surf craft.

42. (currently amended) A fin assembly for a surf craft, the assembly, in use, providing a predetermined sectional water engaging area (A) and including:

a base for mounting the assembly to extend from a surface of the surf craft;
a primary larger fin extending from the base and away from the surface; and
a secondary-smaller fin extending from the base, the smaller fin trailing the larger
fin wherein a high proportion of A is near the surface.

43. (currently amended) An assembly according to claim 42 wherein the primary larger fin terminates in a point having a predetermined height (H) with respect to the surface, and at least 0.4.A is within 0.3.H of the surface.

44. (original) An assembly according to claim 42 wherein at least 0.45.A is within 0.3.H of the surface.

45. (original) An assembly according to claim 42 wherein at least 0.5.A is within 0.3.H of the surface.

46. (original) An assembly according to claim 42 wherein at least 0.35.A is within 0.22H of the surface.

47 - 56. (canceled)

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